THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A proposal for running of a Millennium Parcel Special between Delhi & Bangalore on round-trip basis is under the consideration of Northern Railway. Introduction of similar trains to other Southern destinations would depend on requests received from parties and the traffic potential assessed.

(d) Does not arise.

New A.C. coaches in Aravli Express

1129. SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Western Railway has included new A.C. sleeper coaches in Aravali Express;

(b) if so, whether innovations have been made in these coaches;

(c) whether such coaches would be introduced in other trains also; and

(d) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) One A.C. Sleeper coach with interiors modified to improve passenger comfort and to minimize chances of injury from coach fittings in normal use or during accidents was introduced for about a week on trial on Aravali Express.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) Railways have approved a list of such modifications which will be incorporated in all new coaches and will also be retrofitted on existing coaches during overhauling in base workshops. Thus, all coaches will be modified in a phased manner.